

To Whom it May Concern,

I am submitting this testimony for HB 5037. I am an artist living and working in CT. I also teach part time for ConnCAT, a non-profit in New Haven. It is my understanding that Connecticut currently earmarks 70% of budget funds through line item appropriations. **I humbly ask that you all please** allocate this funding to the CT Office of the Arts, who can administer these funds in an accessible, equitable, and accountable way to deserving entities and individuals.

I am also a parent and request that you agree to fund the **CT Museums Kids Are Free Initiative**. My kids and I were able to visit new places through this program last summer. The experiences were invaluable!

Thank you for your support of arts and culture in our lovely state and for listening to my testimony!

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Fludd